

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05
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P R 220356Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
SECSTATE WASHDC 8690

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POSTS FOR DEA - DEA HQS FOR ENOM/IGRP FROST FROM SAIC HURLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: GFXA-78-8023 AFGHAN OPIUM CULTIVATION

REF: DEA 17062 DTG 141943Z JUNE78

1. THE TYPE OF DATA REQUESTED IN REFTEL IS GENERALLY NOT AVIALABLE FOR AFGHANISTAN. DEA KABUL IS ATTEMPTING FOR THE FIRST TIME TO DETERMINE THE ESTIMATED TOTAL ACREAGE UNDER OPIUM CULTIVATION. THE DATA COLLECTED TO DATE HAS BEEN REPORTED IN GFXA-78-8023. OPIUM PRODUCTION DTA FOR 1976 AND 1977 WAS REPORTED IN GFUA-75-8001, AFGHANIS-TAN PRODUCTION DATA. DEMOGRAPHY HAS NOT BEEN AN APPLIED SCIENCE IN AFGHANISTAN AND TO DATE A COMPLETE CENSUS HAS NOT BEEN MADE.

2. A UNFDAC FUNDED HOUSEHOLD SURVEY OF THE UPPER HELMAND VALLEY WAS CONDUCTED IN LATE 1977 AND THE REPORT SUBMITTED
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TO THE U.N. ON JANUARY 10, 1978, A COPY OF THAT REPORT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO HEADQUARTERS, ENOM. A COPY WILL BE FORWARDED TO FROST/IGRP IN THE NEXT AVAILABLE POUCH.

3. THE DATA CONTAINED IN THE HOUSEHOLD SURVEY REFLECTS A TOTAL OF 10,384 JERIBS (1 JERIB EQUALS 1/5 HECTARE) OR 2,077 HECTARES UNDER OPIUM CULTIVATION IN 1977 IN THE

UPPER HELMAND VALLEY. AVERAGE OPIUM CROP SIZE WAS ONE TO ONE POINT EIGHT JERIBS. TOTAL LABOR INPUTS WERE 3.8 MEN FOR 13 DAYS, 4.4 MEN FOR 12 DAYS AND 4.8 MEN FOR 13.8 DAYS AT AVERAGE WAGE OF APPROX. ONE DOLLAR FIVE CENTS PER DAY.

4. THIS SURVEY IS NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL OF THE OPIUM PRODUCING REGIONS OF AFGHANISTAN; HOWEVER, IT IS THE ONLY SURVEY OF ITS TYPE MADE IN AFGHANISTAN. THE U.N. NARCOTICS ADVISOR, CHRISTIAN MAGNUSSEN, HAS IN HIS FINAL REPORT (UPON TERMINATION OF HIS CONTRACT) RECOMMENDED THAT SIMILAR SURVEYS BE CONDUCTED NATION-WIDE DURING THE FALL OF 1978. IF THE RECOMMENDATION IS ACCEPTED WE WILL ATTEMPT TO INTRODUCE THIS TYPE DATA IN THE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES.

5. THE TOTAL ACREAGE REPORTED IN GFXA-78-8023 FOR 1978 AS REPORTED BY SUF 50002 AND TWO SUB-SOURCES IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TOTAL ACREAGE ALLEGEDLY PLANTED IN THE FALL OF 1977. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE MAJORITY PLANTED IN SOME AREAS DID NOT SURVIVE THE WINTER.

6. WE HAVE QUESTIONED THE ACREAGE REPORTED BY SUF 50002 AND ARE EXPLORING MEANS TO DEVELOP MORE ACCURATE DATA. FOR EXAMPLE IN THE DEA-6 DATED MAY 14, 1978, GFXA-78-8023 BY S/A HAROLD D. WANKEL, SUF 50002 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORTED 280,000 TO 320,000 JERIBS PLANTED FOR OPIUM PRODUCTION IN MAIWAND TRIBAL AREAS OF AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN. TOTAL PRODUCTION FOR THAT AREA WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 360-370 TONS.

7. THE UN NARCOTICS ADVISOR AND DEA KABUL HAVE AGREED THAT A CONSERVATIVE NATIONWIDE YIELD OF 7.5 KGS. OF RAW OPIUM PER JERIB IS A FAIR STANDARD. THIS IS BASED ON NUMEROUS CONVERSATIONS WITH FARMERS IN THE PRODUCING AREAS. SOME REPORTS CLAIM A PRODUCTION AS HIGH AS 22.5 KGS. PER JERIB WHEN THE LAND IS IRRIGATED, FERTILIZED AND PROPERLY CARED FOR. THE ACTUAL LANCING OF THE POD IS DONE VERTICALLY WITH A SIX BLADED TOOL FROM FOUR TO SIX SEPARATE TIMES PER POD OVER THE FOURTEEN DAY HARVEST PERIOD.

8. IN THE UPPER HELMAND HOUSEHOLD SURVEY THE YIELD RANGED FROM 4.8 KGS. TO 10.28 KGS. PER JERIB. THE AVERAGE WAS 6.8 KGS. PER JERIB FROM 10,384 JERIBS OR 60.768 KGS

9. AN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AGENT OF THE GOA MINISTRY

OF AGRICULTURE REPORTED TO THE FIRST JOINT COMMISSION
MEETING AN AVERAGE YIELD IN THE UPPER HELMAND OF
FROM 7 TO 10 KGS. PER JERIB.

10. ON THE BASIS OF THESE ESTIMATES THE WINTER KILL IN
MAIWAND WOULD HAVE BEEN WELL OVER HALF OF THE TOTAL
PLANTING.

11. WE WERE ADVISED BY THE UNNA THAT THE INCB HAS
RECENTLY SENT A LETTER TO THE GOA REQUESTING TO KNOW
THE TOTAL ACREAGE UNDER OPIUM PRODUCTION. IT IS
DOUBTFUL THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO ACCURATELY RESPOND.

12. ALTHOUGH THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IS NOT FULLY
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AVAILABLE WE HOPE THAT THIS REPORT WILL BE HELPFUL.
AMSTUTZ

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Message Attributes

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